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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/966,954	11/10/1997	JOHANNES R. GERARDUS DE VRIES	6211P001	6312

7590

04/08/2005

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EXAMINER

NGO, CHUONG D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2193

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DATE MAILED: 04/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/966,954

Applicant(s)

GERARDUS DE VRIES,  
JOHANNES R.

Examiner

Chuong D Ngo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 August 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 26-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 26-43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 25.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guttag et al. (5,465,224).

As per claim 26, Guttag et al. discloses in figure 5 a processor including a plurality of functional units (230,235,220,224), a bus structure having a plurality of buses, including a bus (corresponding to a bus extending from an operation unit to a common bus or another unit) for each of the functional unit as claimed. It is noted that Guttag does not disclose bus registers, each coupled to an output of only a corresponding one of the functional units, and to only a corresponding one of the buses. However, the bus registers as claimed are clearly read on output register or buffer of an functional unit which is well-know in the art to maintain the logic levels of the functional unit output from logic transients and switchings which may cause errors in the result. Figure 5 of Guttag although does not specifically show these output registers or buffers, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to provide the functional units with output registers or buffers (corresponding to the claimed bus registers) in order reduce errors from logic transients and switchings.

As per claims 27-33 and 35-38 Guttag et al. also discloses the functional units including a multiplier unit (see figure 12) and an arithmetic logic unit ALU (230) (see also figures 25 and 26 and their description) that are adjustable to process data of different bit length multiple of eight bit, a control register (245,250) which define a tree port parameterized logic function to be performed by the ALU, a register bank unit (200) and a shift unit (230,235) as claimed.

As per claims 34 and 39-43, Gutttag et al. also discloses a register bank unit (200) including a plurality of registers. The fourth and fifth bus registers as claimed are clearly read on input registers or buffers of an functional unit which is well-know in the art to maintain the logic levels of the input to the functional unit from logic transients and switchings which may cause errors in operation. Figure 5 of Gutttag although does not specifically show these input registers or buffers, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to provide the functional units with in registers or buffers (corresponding to the claimed fourth and fifth bus registers) in order reduce errors from logic transients and switchings.

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

3. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chuong D Ngo whose telephone number is (571) 272-3731. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kakali Chaki can be reached on (571) 272-3719. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Chuong D Ngo  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2193

04/07/2005